

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
23 May, 1978

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 27 June, 1978
25 July, 1978
- B. Minutes of April 25, 1978 meeting.
- C. Board of Architectural Consultants for the Old Georgetown Act, Confirmation of Reappointment of Anne Vytlačil to Three-Year Term.
- D. Georgetown Waterfront - Status Report.
- E. Proposed Advertising on Metrobus Shelters.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

- 1. OG 78-89, 1611 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., New Office Building for Reed Electric.
- 2. OG 78-91, 1024 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Addition to Existing Apartment Building.
- 3. OG 78-97, 3285 M Street, N.W., Townhouses above Retail/Commercial Space - Resubmission.
- 4. OG 78-100, 1044 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Addition and Alteration to Existing Building for Restaurant and Residential Use.
- 5. OG 78-102, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Three-Story Commercial/Office Rear Addition - Resubmission.
- 6. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

- 1. SL 78-46, 718 15th Street, N.W., New Entranceway.
- 2. Appendix 2.

23 May, 1978

B. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivisions

1. Historic Subdivision No. 85, 3230 Reservoir Road, N.W., Conversion of Taxation and Assessment Lot to Record Lot.

2. Historic Subdivision No. 86, Wisconsin Avenue, M Street, and Warehouse Place, N.W., Conversion of Taxation and Assessment Lot to Record Lot.

3. Historic Subdivision No. ?, 2719 O Street, N.W., Conversion of Taxation and Assessment Lot to Record Lot.

4. Appendix 3.

C. U.S. Postal Service

Brightwood Vehicle Maintenance Facility, 6300 Chillum Place, N.W.

D. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

Western Plaza, Western Sector - Concept Plan.

23 May, 1978

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNERPROJECT

OG 78-

71 1855 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Safeway Stores, Inc.

Replacement store located directly behind present store (resubmission refer to OG 78-71).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Preliminary design for building, site, landscaping, and lighting is recommended for further development. Request detailed study of wall and landscaping screening parking lot from Wisconsin Avenue. Request that working drawings, material samples, graphics be submitted for review prior to issuance of permit. 5/5/78

82 3285 M Street, N.W.

Robert N. Wolpe

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy with general overall lowering of height and reduction of mass. Recommend more conventional row building facades along street frontages, maintaining existing building line along Prospect Street. Question design of M Street facade with split foyer double-level arrangement. Request smaller parking garage ramp to reduce impact on residential character of Potomac Street. 5/5/78

83 3225 Grace Street, N.W.
Georgetown Park Venture

Renovation of existing building - Georgetown Park (resubmission refer to OG 78-18).

ACTION: Issue permit for renovation of building. Request submission of bridge, landscaping, and graphics designs as developed. New brickwork to blend in with existing as closely as possible. 5/5/78

84 3301 M Street, N.W.

Donohoe Construction

New townhouses above commercial (resubmission refer to OG 78-25).

ACTION: Issue permit. Request submission of additional brick samples in the red range characteristic of Georgetown. Recommend site erection of brick and mortar sample for Commission of Fine Arts review prior to construction of exterior masonry walls. 5/5/78

85 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Vega Corporation

Construct rear masonry addition.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. See attached letter in reference to subdivision and site planning. Request review of plans for zoning and fire conformance to D.C. Code requirements. Insufficient information was given to indicate proposal would be compatible with adjacent block and historic structure to front. Request model showing more of surrounding buildings and open space, including area from 1545 Wisconsin Avenue to corner of Q and 32nd Streets, and south to 1515 Wisconsin Avenue. 5/5/78

23 May, 1978

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 78-87	3221 M Street, N.W. B.R.S., Inc.	Reglaze windows; move storefront entrance; cover lower brick with slate; repaint and reglaze second floor. ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy with more typical exterior material. Slate and aluminum are not recommended. Suggest more harmony between first and second floors. Recommend restudy of window proportions with possibility of a transom element across entire facade. 5/5/78
88	3056 M Street, N.W. Michel Sellier	Kitchen-dining room addition to rear of building; interior alterations; new service stair. ACTION: Do not issue permit unless exterior wall surface is brick compatible with existing building. 5/5/78
90	1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Joseph Marsh	New townhouses (resubmission refer to OG 78-72).
ACTION:	Issue permit.	Request brick sample panel erected on site prior to construction of exterior walls. Request landscape plans as ready. 5/5/78
92	3057 M Street, N.W. Chez Grandmere	2' x 9'6" sign (resubmission refer to OG 78-49).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit.	See previous submission, OG 78-49. 5/5/78
93	3067 C. & O. Canal Joan A. Mariscal	Hanging sign to indicate Lunch'N Box carryout.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit.	Request exact design of proposed sign bracket. Request accurate drawings of letter style and spacing of proposed sign. 5/5/78
94	1237 31st Street, N.W. S. A. Chambers	Construct 19'3" x 16'4" addition to rear of existing house; remove dilapidated porch from rear.
ACTION:	Issue permit.	Recommend use of wrought iron railing rather than pipe railing. 5/5/78
96	3400 Dent Place, N.W. Margery Thompson, Idris Rossell	Build new two-story porch, stair; build new fence.
ACTION:	Issue permit.	5/18/78

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

23 May, 1978

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
OG 78-98	1240 29th Street, N.W. John L. Willey	Three-story addition to existing house.
<u>ACTION:</u>	Issue permit. 5/18/78	
99	1412 28th Street, N.W. John F. Sullivan	Addition at south elevation; four new windows.
<u>ACTION:</u>	Issue permit. 5/18/78	
101	3101 P Street, N.W. Don Dailey	New window openings, interior layout (resubmission refer to OG 78-77 - Working Drawings).
<u>ACTION:</u>	Issue permit. Recommend that rooftop lattice work be checked against Code. 5/18/78	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

23 May, 1978

NO. ADDRESS AND OWNER

PROJECT

SL 78-
42

501 13th Street, N.W.
J. Albert Weinberg

Install canopy.

ACTION: Issue permit. Recommend that stucco be painted to match rest of building. 5/5/78

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON HISTORIC SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

23 May, 1978

<u>NO.</u>	<u>SQUARE, LOT, ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
HS-84	Square 1272, Lots 202,203, 227 1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Joseph D. Marsh	Combination of Assessment and Taxation Lots 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, and 815 into one record lot.
<u>ACTION:</u> No objection. 5/2/78		

PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

23 May, 1978

1611 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Robert A. Miller

1024 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Arthur Cotton Moore
Thomas Bourke
Leonard Greenberg

3285 M Street, N.W.

Elliott Gitlin
Robert Wolpe

Dorothea Capello
J. F. Benton
Lois Bird
Rose Vallila

1044 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Arthur Cotton Moore
Thomas Bourke

1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

A. L. Wheeler
James Wheeler
Andrew Bryant

Jean M. Lynch
Bogdan Bosbrich
Francis Drath

Members, Old Georgetown Board

Wynant D. Vanderpool
Anne Vytlačil
Thomas W. D. Wright

Citizens Association of Georgetown,
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3-A

Grosvenor Chapman
Thomas Parrott
Katharine Sullivan
Donald Shannon

718 15th Street, N.W.

Henry E. Schwarz
Albert Swanke
Der Scutt
Roger Trapp

3230 Reservoir Road, N.W.

Frank Loy
Margaret Arnold

USPS Brightwood Facility

E. E. Hellmann

PADC Western Plaza

Leland Allen
W. Anderson Barnes
Robert Venturi

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
23 May, 1978

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Philip W. Buchen
 Hon. Victorine du Pont Homsey
 Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
 Hon. Frederick D. Nichols

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
 Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
 Ms. Nancy H. Noyes

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were set: 27 June and 25 July, 1978.

B. Minutes of the April 25, 1978 meeting were approved.

C. Board of Architectural Consultants for Old Georgetown Act.
The Commission unanimously approved the reappointment of Anne Vytlačil for an additional three-year term.

D. Georgetown Waterfront - Status Report. The Secretary briefed the members on efforts by a District of Columbia-sponsored intergovernmental task force to achieve a consensus on how to develop the area between K Street and the Potomac River. He indicated that the city was quite interested in finding ways to keep some private development in the area, though they were willing to think of the publicly-owned land in the area becoming park. The members generally discussed the matter, coming to the unanimous conclusion that they would continue to support a total park in the area between the river and K Street. The Secretary also pointed out that Senator Mathias had introduced a bill in the Senate to make much of the land between the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and the Potomac River into a national park.

E. Proposed Advertising on Metrobus Shelters. The Secretary told the members that the trash can service being contractually provided by Pride, Inc. was having financial difficulties. The Pride scheme was to sell advertising on the sides of the trash cans in public space throughout the city. Pride had been furnishing and maintaining the cans for a number of years. A proposal had been made to

assist Pride through extending the public space advertising to the city's bus shelters. The Commission recommended against further intrusion of advertising into public space. EXHIBIT A

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 78-89, 1611 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., New Office Building for Reed Electric. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a block model of this shop/office/apartment building two stories high in traditional style. The proposed structure would be located on Wisconsin Avenue a few doors north of Q Street, on a vacant lot. Mr. Thomas Wright of the Georgetown Board reported no objection to the proposal. The Board had reviewed the project several times and had made a number of recommendations which had been carried out by the architect, Mr. Bob Miller. Mr. Miller showed the Commission an Oxford brick which they unanimously approved with the design.

2. OG 78-91, 1024 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Addition to Existing Apartment Building. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs, a model, and drawings of this proposal to build an addition to the sides and roof of the Cherry Hill apartments. He showed the location on Wisconsin Avenue just north of the Dodge Center and reminded the members that they had approved an addition to the rear of the building, which faced the tiny Cherry Hill townhouses across Cecil Place, N.W. The addition previously approved was under construction. The Assistant Secretary introduced the architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, who described the project as an effort to upgrade the property without completely losing the existing identity of the original structure. He described the project as a small, modest way of developing the property in comparison with demolition and construction of a major project such as the Dodge Center.

Mr. Wright reported that the Old Georgetown Board had recommended against approval of the project, simply because it raised a number of questions including the suitability of overloading the site, cutting a garage entrance into the Wisconsin Avenue front of Cherry Hill, and the mixing of architectural styles and elements as visible from public space.

Mr. Chapman, representing the Citizens Association, questioned the suitability of additional construction on the site. There was no strong objection to the proposal from the community.

The members examined the submission, with Mr. Nichols wondering if the building should be kept at all, since it had little historic

or architectural character. The Chairman summarized the Commission's unanimous disapproval of the design as being unresolved and complex. The suggestion was made to restudy with a simpler combination of elements, perhaps not retaining the existing building at all.

3. OG 78-97, 3285 M Street, N.W., Townhouses above Retail/Commercial Space - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented a model, photographs, and drawings of the complex proposed between M, Potomac, and Prospect Streets, N.W., on the site of an abandoned Texaco gas station and a parking lot. He recalled that the Commission had been previously concerned about the height of the project and its crowded relation to the small-scale townhouses within its street front and to the west, fronting on 33rd Street. Great community interest and opposition had been presented previously to the Commission on the project. A redesign had lowered the profile of the project considerably and townhouse-type facades were designed for Prospect and Potomac Streets, as recommended by the Commission. The Commission's previous concern over the M Street frontage had not been addressed. There had been concern over a split-foyer type of two-floor, setback commercial space which was in no way typical of Georgetown.

Mr. Wright reported for the Old Georgetown Board after the architect, Mr. Gitlin, and developer, Mr. Wolpe, had described the project. The Board had recommended against the scheme because the M Street frontage failed to blend with typical Georgetown row buildings, with a single-floor commercial level at sidewalk level. He commended the developer and architect for reducing the mass and suggested a few details such as smoothing out garage opening arches may bear further study. Mr. Chapman reported for the Citizens Association with pleasure at the mass reduction of the project. He reported that there was not unanimity within the community, and introduced several other parties who were in opposition to the density, appearance, and proximity of the project to their homes. The Chairman thanked the community representatives for their interest, saying that the Commission was interested in their views, but to continue to repeat previously expressed views would contribute little to the object of judging the project by the Commission members on its own merits, with the recommendations of the Georgetown Board, as required by law.

The project was discussed for some time, with the Commission indicating that there was a general dissatisfaction with the relationship of the M Street facade to the traditional streetscape of Georgetown. The Commission recommended a restudy of the south elevations and commended the developer for reducing the impact of the project on the adjacent residential area.

4. OG 78-100, 1044 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Addition and Alteration to Existing Building for restaurant use and residential use. The Assistant Secretary presented models, drawings, and photographs of

this proposal which involved a contemporary curved glass addition to the former Hawk Welding Company at Wisconsin Avenue and Grace Street. New construction would cover the roof of the old welding company and build upon the vacant lot north toward the corner. The small building would have a restaurant on the ground floor and several apartments above. The architect, Arthur Cotton Moore, explained the program and his philosophy of the project. He stated that, like Cherry Hill, this project respected the existing small scale development, kept the old building, and gave a new and compatible statement to the architecture.

Mr. Wright reported for the Old Georgetown Board that there was a consensus the building should be reduced by about one floor. He and Anne Vytlačil felt that the playful glass facade would be acceptable. Mr. Vanderpool had found it inappropriate. Mr. Chapman stated his feeling that the building was stylistically out of keeping with Georgetown. Mrs. Katharine Sullivan stated, on behalf of the Citizens Association, that the architecture was too different from the row-building brick structures of adjacent construction.

The Commission examined the materials and discussed them with the architect. The Chairman stated the Commission's unanimous approval of the treatment of the glass conservatory ground floor addition and hopes for restudy of the upper floors to achieve a brick presence and height more in keeping with adjacent buildings.

5. OG 78-102, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Three-story Commercial/Office Rear Addition - Resubmission. The Secretary presented photographs, drawings, and a model of this part of Wisconsin Avenue to reconsider a proposal reviewed at the April meeting, at which time additional information was requested. At 39-foot-high brick traditionally-styled structure filling most of the garden space behind an old, historic, and documented building at 1529 Wisconsin Avenue was clearly shown in relation to the adjacent block, gardens, buildings, and streets. He reminded the members that they had previously recommended against the assembly of the rear yard with two small pieces of property out of realization that a large building, or addition to the rear of 1529, could adversely affect it and the vicinity. Meanwhile the District Government had not accepted the Commission's recommendation and the subdivision would be granted. To the best information available the building appeared to conform to the zoning requirements of the District of Columbia.

Mr. A. L. Wheeler, the developer, presented his views of why the building was compatible and hoped that the Commission would view his furnishing the model and efforts to comply with Commission suggestions as reasons for approval of the project. He indicated the cost and time involved with furnishing the presentation materials and his discomfort with the Georgetown Board for their recommendation against the project

prior to seeing the model. The Chairman pointed out that the Commission was advised by the Board, but the Commission requested the model prior to taking any direct action on the project.

Mr. Wright represented the Board and recommended against the project for parts visible from public space. He indicated that the Board found the model excellent, and indicated that visible construction, including the taking of at least one major tree from the site, would probably be a mistake. He indicated that this was the advice to the Commission by the Board with full realization that the Commission would act as it felt proper. A number of community representatives, including Mrs. Katharine Sullivan, joined in opposing the project as destroying open space and compromising the integrity of the historic district.

The Commission asked Mr. Wheeler a number of questions and examined the materials. They came to the unanimous opinion that the permit should not be granted and advised the Mayor, by letter, that a public hearing ought to be held prior to decision about issuance of the permit. Since the Joint Committee on Landmarks had reviewed the case under the Delay in Demolition ordinance, and recommended against the project, this could be a logical further public forum on the project, for those parts not visible from public space. Having an old building with an addition was not a unique proposal for Georgetown, but these were normally below the cornice height of existing buildings. Mr. Wheeler's proposal exceeded this general rule, and thus the recommendation not to issue the permit. The Chairman ruled that the Commission would advise the Mayor to hold the public hearing under its role as advisor to the District Government.

EXHIBIT B

6. Appendix 1, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 78-46, 718 15th Street, N.W., New Entranceway. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs of this proposed new entrance for the American Security Bank at 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. He pointed out that the bank adjoins the Riggs Bank, of similar neo-classical style, and is across Pennsylvania Avenue from the U.S. Treasury Building. He showed the drawings for a very modest original proposal to replace a window with a door which had been approved some time before by the Commission. He also showed a more ambitious scheme, now submitted, which would remove much of the masonry and detail of the central facade and greatly enlarge the size of the entrance.

Mr. Schwarz of the American Security Bank indicated that the Bank was very interested in doing the right thing by their building, which they considered one of the most prestigious of their image and location assets. They were attempting to get an entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue

which would be somewhat more monumental than that originally contemplated. Mr. Swanke, the architect, told of his scheme to expose more of the interior of the building towards the sidewalk, so that passers-by could see the decorative coffered ceilings. In general discussion the Commission indicated their unanimous disapproval of the proposal and hopes for a restudy with more of the masonry elements left in place, and less glass. The architect agreed to make additional studies and return to the Commission at the next meeting.

2. Appendix 2, approved.

B. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivisions

1. Historic Subdivision No. 85, 3230 Reservoir Road, N.W., Conversion of Tazation and Assessment Lot to Record Lot. The Assistant Secretary described efforts by contract purchasers of the property, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Loy, to put an addition onto the existing house, plus a swimming pool, tennis court, and two new townhouses, on the 29,000 square foot property, near Reservoir and Wisconsin in Georgetown. He indicated that the Commission had been involved with efforts to bring subdivision for purposes of new construction on open space into the review arena where the public could examine and the Commission review such proposals. He indicated that if the Commission effectively turned down the subdivision, the District Government would receive the recommendation to hold a public hearing and potentially grant a delay. He noted that the Commission would review any new construction on the site and could deal with design factors at a later time as well. He noted, additionally, the great community interest in the matter, and a large number of concerned citizens present in the meeting room.

The Assistant Secretary introduced Mrs. Loy and her attorney, Mr. Murphy. Mrs. Loy said that her family hoped to live in the house and sell two additional houses on the property to make the remaining open space and improvements more economically feasible. She indicated a number of concerns for the nearby neighbors and efforts at dealing with them.

A number of neighbors were present, including D.C. Councilwoman Pollu Shackleton, who presented a petition asking to have the subdivision denied. They were concerned about access, loss of open space, safety, etc. The Chairman indicated the Commission's role in the matter, including review of the subdivision and any eventual new construction. The Commission generally discussed the matter and unanimously rejected the application for purposes of sending the matter before a public hearing under provisions of the subdivision regulations. The Chairman pointed out that the Commission was advisory in this case and that advice would be coming from the Joint Committee on Landmarks as

well. The collective advice would be considered by the District Government to determine if a legitimate public concern was present and if there existed a potential adverse impact to the historic district. If so, they would have a public hearing.

2. Historic Subdivision No. 86, Wisconsin Avenue, M Street, and Warehouse Place, N.W., Conversion of Taxation and Assessment Lot to Record Lot. The Secretary told the members that this subdivision was a part of construction of a mixed-use commercial/residential complex for which they had approved the preliminary design. Since the Commission had already approved the proposal involved, they unanimously approved the subdivision.

3. Historic Subdivision No. ?, 2719 O Street, N.W., Conversion of Taxation and Assessment Lot into Record Lot. The Secretary reported the subdivision had been requested to provide an addition to a residence facing O Street. The subdivision would probably involve a modest addition facing Poplar Street, N.W., a street of small row houses. The Commission unanimously approved the subdivision provided the design of the addition could be reviewed in context with the adjoining streetscape and found to be compatible.

4. Appendix 3, approved.

C. U.S. Postal Service

Brightwood Vehicle Maintenance Facility, 6300 Chillum Place, N.W. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs of a proposed industrial facility to be built adjacent to similar uses and a spur railroad track. The simple, one-floor brick building would be capable of repairing about one dozen mail trucks at a time. The Commission looked at the drawings and the vicinity photos and unanimously approved the project.

EXHIBIT C

D. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

Western Plaza, Western Sector - Concept Plan. The Secretary introduced Mr. W. Anderson Barnes, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, who indicated that he had a number of staff and consultants who were present and available to answer questions that the Commission might have, but that a formal presentation for action was not anticipated until designs for the Western Sector had been further developed. Mr. Barnes introduced the prime consultants architect for the square between 13th and 14th Streets, Messers Robert Venturi and George Patton. Mr. Venturi presented the further development of a scheme for a simple rectangular space with low key landscape elements flanking an incised portion depicting the L'Enfant Plan on the paving. Two 100-foot-high white marble pylons flanked the Pennsylvania Avenue vista and were counterpointed by a pair of flagpoles. Mr. Venturi

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presented the scheme and its evolution with slides, drawings, and a model. The Chairman stated his personal enthusiasm for the design, noting that the Commission had encouraged further development of this scheme during an earlier informal briefing on alternatives. Because the Chairman and Messers Jacobs and Buchen were forced to leave the meeting prior to completion of the presentation, a written synopsis is included in these minutes. Mr. Nichols and Mrs. Homsey discussed the proposal further. Mr. Nichols thanked the PADC representatives on behalf of the Commission, and adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

EXHIBIT D

Signed,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles H. Atherton". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Charles" being the most prominent part of the signature.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
202-366-1066

7 June, 1978

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We noted in a recent article in the Star that the D.C. Council would shortly consider legislation to permit the display of advertising in public bus shelters. Subsequently the Commission of Fine Arts voted at its meeting on May 23 to write the Council and urge that this legislation not be enacted.

As you know, the Commission has worked with the District Government over a period of many years to limit the display of advertising in our public streets and avenues. As a result the Capital has achieved a distinctive beauty that sets it apart from other cities which have no such laws.

In our view, the legislation now pending before the Council would run counter to all our past efforts. In just the last few years we have seen the introduction of advertising in a number of public areas and the addition of advertising in bus shelters would only be a further intrusion and thus a further lowering of the standards that have contributed so much to the appearance of Washington.

Since our last meeting on May 23, the Commission learned informally, late last Friday afternoon, of a discussion to be held Monday, June 5, by Mrs. Rolark regarding the proposed legislation. While we were able to attend on short notice and briefly comment on our views, we know of a number of opponents for whom it was not possible due to insufficient notice of the meeting. However we requested that the record remain open so that others could submit their views. It is now our understanding that this may not be possible since the Committee is scheduled to vote on the matter today.

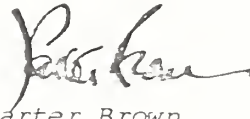
...2/

7 June, 1978

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I hope therefore that you can make our opposition known to the other Council members before any final vote is taken. It is an important issue, in our opinion - one that could have considerable effect on diminishing the appearance of the National Capital. We enthusiastically support the installation of many additional bus shelters throughout the city, but not at the price of their serving as signboards. Any economic advantages that the city might gain would be relatively small in comparison to the long term effects on the appearance of the city.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Carter Brown', with a stylized, flowing script.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Sterling Tucker
Chairman, Council of
the District of Columbia
District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
 202-566-1066

7 June, 1978

Dear Mayor Washington:

The Commission of Fine Arts has been asked by the District Government to review the lot subdivision and architectural designs which would enable Mr. A. L. Wheeler, representing Vega Investment Corporation, to construct an office addition to the historic structure at 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

At its meeting on April 4, 1978, the Commission reviewed Vega Investment's subdivision request, filed under Historic Subdivision No. 78, and recommended against it on the basis that the expanded lot size would permit a larger addition than the present lot, and that this would only serve to increase the adverse effect on what is one of the last remaining early Federal structures on this section of Wisconsin Avenue. I enclose a copy of our report on this action, and also a copy of the documentation of the historic structure which was prepared by the Commission and the National Park Service's Historic American Buildings Survey in 1967.

In a separate application, O.G. 78-102, filed under the Old Georgetown Act, the District Permit Office submitted plans for the new addition which were subsequently reviewed by both the Board of Review for the Old Georgetown Act at its meeting on May 17, and by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 23.

After careful review of the plans and model prepared by the applicant, the Commission reports that the portion of the proposed addition subject to public view from a public street would be sufficient to disclose the existence of an addition relatively high and massive in comparison to the present building along the public street. Because the Commission may base its recommendations on such changes from the proposal submitted as in the judgment of the Commission are necessary and desirable to preserve the historic value of the Georgetown district, it recommends against a use of the lot in question that would noticeably close the open area behind the historic building on this lot and thus would give the appearance from public space of intrusion on prevailing open spaces within the block. It would also give the appearance of a

7 June, 1978

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relatively massive addition, and an atypical one, to the present unitary structure along the street front.

The Commission would like to point out that the delay in demolition and alteration ordinance enacted as a part of the D.C. Code is not limited to alterations or additions subject to public view, and that if proposed alterations or additions to an historic structure are determined to be contrary to the interest of preserving historic values your office has the authority to delay the construction of the proposed addition for the purpose of holding a public hearing and to explore alternatives to the proposed project. The Joint Committee on Landmarks reviewed this same application at its meeting on May 18, and disapproved it. However it is my understanding that no formal request for a hearing has been made by the Committee, pending the outcome of our meeting on May 23, 1978.

In light of the extensive community sentiment expressed at both the meetings of the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission of Fine Arts, I believe that in addition to considering our recommendation against Vega Investment's proposal subject to public view, you should provide for public hearings in which to explore fully the larger issue of whether any additions to this historic structure should be allowed.

We will be most happy to participate in such hearings, and will be glad to furnish for the record any material that might be appropriate for the hearing.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Walter E. Washington
Mayor of the District of Columbia
520 District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

6 June, 1978

Dear Mr. Hellmann:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved preliminary designs for the Brightwood Vehicle Maintenance Facility, 6300 Chillum Place, N.W., during its May 23 meeting. The members found the straightforward utilitarian simplicity of the building suitable for its light industrial setting.

We would appreciate the opportunity to review final drawings before construction contracts are let.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. E. E. Hellmann
Field Supervisor
Design and Construction
Baltimore Area Facilities Office
U.S. Postal Service
Post Office Box 701
Columbia, Maryland 21045

THE PLAZA FOR THE WESTERN SECTOR OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

One can say of L'Enfant's plan of Washington that it superimposes two orders of scale corresponding to the giant and minor orders in a Baroque facade. The giant order is the diagonal avenues whose axes are sometimes terminated by a building or a monument. It is this order which characterizes the Federal scale of the city. The minor order is the rectangular grid pattern, usually open at the ends of the streets, and characterizing the local structure of the city. The occasional circles and squares are punctuations where the two orders meet, and they promote identity and unity within the plan. The Mall as an axis on the rectangular grid, is the grand exception to this rule.

Pennsylvania Avenue is an element of the giant order, and in the original plan it was terminated unambiguously by a form at each end -- that of the omni-directional dome of the Capitol and that of the Executive Mansion, related to the diagonal axis in its location and to the rectangular grid in its orientation; these two forms were to balance each other more or less, and to symbolize two main branches of government. The extension of Robert Mills' Treasury Building toward the south in the 19th century immensely weakened of course, the formal expression of L'Enfant's plan in this area, diminishing its scale and almost negating its symbolism. The question is, can one bring back the quality of L'Enfant's original plan at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue; that is, a sense of termination at the Federal scale, and if so, how and how much?

We feel comfortable with the current plan of the P.A.D.C. because it acknowledges particular existing diversities in this area and takes off from there. We propose in the final stage of design to develop the plan along these pragmatic lines, working within the constraints of the plan and among its options.

Within the constraints: make the Western Plaza an open, urban, hard-edge space in contrast to the new park on square 226. Make it a place also easily comprehended as a whole. But it should be a unity made up of a multiplicity of parts when seen close-up -- essentially a series of frames within frames in the paving juxtaposed to create variations of scale as in the pattern of an oriental rug. Some of the frames are terraces. The top one is about 3'-6" above street level to create a sense of separation from the streets for pedestrians and to create an apparent edge to the piazza seen from the sidewalks. The terraces are warped surfaces so that the steps are consistent around the plaza. The edging of clipped shrubbery adds a touch of green softness to the plaza and low walls act as seats.

The top terrace contains a parterre depicting part of L'Enfant's plan with stylized sculptural versions of the White House and the Capitol dome in marble. The over-all order of frames, terraces, pools, and lawn are interrupted by the Shepherd Monument opposite the District Building and the Pulaski sculpture in its original location -- the latter surrounded informally by shade trees. We think these combinations of elements and scales will make the plan interesting from close-up, yet unified as a whole.

We think also the design of the Plaza should not anticipate specific programmatic activities because of its location as a virtual traffic island along a very monumental axis.

Among the options: we think the Western Plaza should be part of the giant order as well as the minor order, that it should relate to the diagonal axis of Pennsylvania Avenue as well as to the local grid defined by 13th, 14th, and E Streets, and that it should make some gesture in its design toward terminating Pennsylvania Avenue at this end.

We don't think the plaza can accomplish this however, as a space by itself. With its open corners and diverse facades our plaza is amorphous as a space. Despite its location on the diagonal axis, it is by its direction associated with the grid and therefore with the local, not the Federal, scale; from several blocks down the avenue you will hardly know the plaza is there because it has impact only when you see it as a pattern in a plan or when you stand right in it.

We think the plaza should have two forms in it: two vertical elements, both incomplete in themselves, oriented toward the diagonal axis, and intrinsic to the giant order. From down the avenue and by their positions within the plaza, they should frame the portico of the Treasury and the trees in front of it. From the east side, they could be almost scale-less with white marble facing and a flush black marble stripe; on the west side there is an over-all pattern in bas-relief. The flag poles and flags add a dimension of symbolism and movement to the composition.

L'Enfant anticipated architectural and sculptural forms terminating axes in Washington, but there is another option in the Baroque tradition, that of the open axis extending to the horizon with two sets of silhouetted trees framing space -- as in Le Notre's principal allee on the garden side of Versailles. These frames make something positive out of just-space. We have also seen photographs of amorphous road-side scenes that strangely don't look at all as banal as the real thing once in the context of a frame.

Our framed image is not so compelling as space articulated as infinity at the end of an axis in a French garden, nor is it strong on symbolic content, nor is it vivid as a form complementing the dome of the Capitol -- although L'Enfant's Executive Mansion, itself, would not have had enough impact to counter-balance the Capitol dome.

But our framed image doesn't make a bad picture -- and it is picturesque in several ways. It is an asymmetrical composition, a Romantic scene of a Classical portico in a rural landscape whose prettiness Mills in mid-century would have appreciated. It is reminiscent too of the oblique view of the portico of San Giorgio across the lagoon framed by the two columns on the Piazzetta of San Marco. And it is a symbol of American pragmatism, perhaps -- framed in a Baroque plan and developed not with the authority of a prince but through the vagaries of checks and balances.

Venturi and Rauch, George Patton, Inc.
May 23, 1978

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

6 June, 1978

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on May 23, 1978, considered Historic Subdivision No. 85, involving property in Square 1280 and listed under the address of 3230 Reservoir Road, N.W.

The Commission of Fine Arts is opposed to the proposed subdivision on the basis of potential adverse effect on the historic open space in Georgetown and recommends that a hearing be held in accordance with applicable ordinances in order to afford an opportunity for full discussion and possible delay.

As you know, the Commission is concerned about the maintenance of existing open space in the historic district of Georgetown. Side yards, front yards, and interior lots contribute as much to the character and quality of the historic ambience as do the buildings themselves. Landscaping and tree cover, and views through openings between buildings and over blocks of low structures from higher public vantage points are all factors that must be considered.

In the interest of making the hearing process as worthwhile and productive as possible, we recommend that the applicants provide material by which the impact of their proposal on the existing site can be fairly judged. This probably can best be done through an accurate site model showing the relationship of the new structures to the existing open spaces and to the surrounding buildings on all sides of the site.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lorenzo W. Jacobs, Jr.
Director, Department of Housing
and Community Development
District Building
Washington, D.C. 20004

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

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ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

6 June, 1978

Dear Senator Mathias:

In reply to your recent letter, the Commission of Fine Arts would be delighted to assume a role in the operations and planning of the Museum of the Building Arts.

Probably the most effective way would be for the Commission of Fine Arts to have representation on a Board of Directors, once the Museum is under way. In the meantime we will be happy to serve on any planning committees that may be necessary, particularly at the program level, which might involve architectural changes to the building.

As to the operation of the Museum, the original idea was to set up a private foundation that would run the project. Its ties to the Federal budget process would be similar to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which has a Congressional charter and obtains supplementary funds from Congress but still retains its private status and relies for the most part on private donations and membership fees.

A problem with the proposed Museum for the Building Arts is that it involves the Federally-owned Pension Building, so some Federal agency has to take charge of it. The best way to accomplish this, in our opinion, would be to set up the foundation as originally envisioned, with its overseeing Board of Trustees, and then contract out with the General Services Administration for all support services, including most of the technical staff of the Museum. The director of support services and the staff would therefore all be government employees, while at the policy level the foundation would be responsible. I offer this only as a first suggestion. Obviously such a proposal ought to receive a good deal of study and comment before final adoption of such an arrangement, but I believe it could work.

...2/

Senator Mathias

6 June, 1978

2.

A number of agencies, including our own, operate this way at the present time, in which all supporting services are contracted out to another agency. And yet wide latitude is maintained in formulating policy and budgetary requests, being subject only to the approval of the usual budgetary reviews by Congress and the President.

If you would like to explore this or any other approach, we will be happy to join with your staff in discussing it further.

We have supported the idea of the Museum of the Building Arts for some time, and will be glad to do anything we can in assisting its coming into being.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Carter Brown', with a stylized, cursive script.

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
Charles McC. Mathias
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ON
MAY 18, 1978

Present: Henry H. Brylawski, Esq., Chairman
Francis D. Lethbridge
Robert L. Plavnick

Staff of Sponsoring Agencies

T. Beauchamp, D.C./NCPC
C. Davidson, D.C./NCPC
S. Ganschinietz, D.C./NCPC
A. Helwig, D.C./NCPC
D. Myer, Commission of Fine Arts
R. Nero, NCPC
T.M. O'Connor, NCPC
E.H. Rickels, NCPC
N.C. Taylor, NCPC

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NOTED

* * * * *

The Chairman, noting the absence of a quorum of the Committee, appointed a Subcommittee consisting of the members present.

* * * * *

1. Historic Sites Subdivision - Capitol Hill Historic District, Square 1034, 1361-63 Constitution Avenue, N.E., 1366-68 North Carolina Avenue, N.E., and corner of Constitution and North Carolina Avenues, N.E. (Historic Sites Subdivision Case No. 83) (NCPC File No. 1613)

Without objection, the Subcommittee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed subdivision would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

2. Applications for alteration or demolition of historic buildings or buildings within historic districts (NCPC File No. 1285)

- a. 3056 M Street, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-216, alteration, addition)

Without objection, the Subcommittee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

* * * * *

During the foregoing item, Eric F. Menke entered the meeting and the Chairman noted the presence of a quorum of the Committee.

* * * * *

- b. 413 9th Street, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-230, alteration, sign)

Without objection, the Committee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

- c. 437 9th Street, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-231, alteration, sign)

Without objection, the Committee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

- d. 1500 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-233, alteration)

Without objection, the Committee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

e. Farragut Square & Eye Street, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-234, alteration, addition)

The Committee took no action on this proposal but offered several comments as follows:

The top two stories (above the 110 ft. elevation line) of the building with proposed set back is in need of further study. The Committee is concerned about the breaking and interruption of the design at this point, and the use of strong color for this portion of the building. It is believed that the design detracts from the dignity of the remainder of the building and that the upper two rows should be more simplified. A suggestion was the use of a tinted glass sloping roof. The Committee is also concerned about the strong circular dormer elements and believes that these openings should be further studied.

f. 514 E Street, N.E. (Landmark Case 78-224, alteration)

Without objection, the Committee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed. The Committee recommended that the proposed window on the top floor be better aligned with the one below.

g. 726 7th Street, N.E. (Landmark Case 78-232, alteration)

The Committee took no action on this proposal but directed the staff to conduct a further investigation and review with the applicant in an effort to make the proposal more in keeping with the character of the original building. The Committee offered the following alternatives for study: (1) restore the front of the building with stucco and replace the trim as in the original building; (2) strip the facade and alter the style completely; or (3) duplicate the original facade with the use of brick veneer, admittedly a difficult course of action to follow.

h. 754 11th Street, S.E. (Landmark Case 78-245, alteration)

The Committee was of the opinion that the proposed alteration would not enhance the appearance of the church and requested the staff to further investigate possible alternatives with members of the church. The Committee suggested that other churches built during the same period and of the same general design also be contacted in an effort to learn of any experience that has been gained from similar leakage and its correction.

The Committee postponed action on this proposal until its next meeting or until the staff can satisfactorily resolve the problem in the interim. The Chairman indicated that he would visit the church and speak to the congregation with respect to the proposed alternatives. The Committee was very much in favor of preserving the building and maintaining it as closely as possible to its present character.

i. 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. (Landmark Case 78-238, alteration)

Without objection, the Committee recommended that the Mayor's agent determine that the proposed alteration of the building would not be contrary to the public interest and should not be delayed.

3. Old Post Office Building, Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street, N.W. - Adaptive Use Renovation (NCPC File No. 0664)

UPON MOTION by Mr. Lethbridge, seconded by Mr. Plavnick, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the report (Attachment No. 1).

4. Historic Sites Subdivision - Georgetown Historic District, Square 1280, Reservoir Road, N.W. (Historic Sites Subdivision Case No. 85)

This item was presented to the Committee for information purposes.

5. Urban Homesteading Program (Anacostia Historic District) (NCPC File No. 1288)

a. 2223 Payne Terrace, S.E.

b. 2217 Payne Terrace, S.E.

Without objection, the Committee approved the report (Attachment No. 2).

c. 2006 14th Street, S.E.

UPON MOTION by Mr. Plavnick, seconded by Mr. Menke, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the report (Attachment No. 3).

6. Proposed amendment to the text and map of the Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia adding a new District C-5 and changing from C-4 to C-5, Square 225, 254, 291, 322 and 348 bounded by Pennsylvania Avenue, 15th, F, 13th, E and 10th Streets, N.W. (Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site) (NCPC File No. Z.C. 77-37)

This item was presented to the Committee for information purposes.

* * * * *


Edward H. Rickels
Secretary

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

OLD POST OFFICE BUILDING,
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AND 12TH STREET, N.W.--
ADAPTIVE USE RENOVATION

Report of the Joint Committee on Landmarks

May 13, 1978

Joint Committee finds that the plans for this phase of the proposed adaptive reuse of the Post Office Building will not adversely affect the qualities that qualify this Category II Landmark of the National Capital for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The Committee understands that this submission is limited to interior work on the building except (1) removing a portion of the wall that supports the loading dock, a portion of the loading dock and two bays at the south entrance and ramping down to the ground floor to provide access for interior demolition work; (2) providing new ground floor exits in existing alleyways in the east wall of the northwest pavilion and the east wall of the southeast pavilion as well as a new service entrance at the east facade of the southwest pavilion; (3) replacing aluminum and steel score front first floor entrance doors with wood doors replicating the original doors; (4) repairing the slate roof matching original materials as closely as possible and (5) removing metal skylight covering and reglazing using a mill finish aluminum framing system with the same in mirror glass. The Committee looks forward to reviewing the final exterior alterations to the building as well as the revised site plans and plans for the redesign of the Federal Plaza angle in the Great Circle area.

Previous Committee Action

At its meeting on December 21, 1977, the Joint Committee made the following determination--

The Joint Committee finds that the general concept of the proposed adaptive use renovation of the Old Post Office building will have no adverse effect on the qualities that qualify this Category II Landmark of the National Capital for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. During developmental phases the Committee recommends further study of the proposed new northeast and south entrances, (1) eliminating all elements which are not in harmony with the building, (2) retaining and raising the ornate iron loading dock canopy directly above the south entrance doors, (3) restudying the relation of the proposed site plan and landscaping details to Pennsylvania Avenue and to the Great Circle west of 12th Street, coordinating with the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation on the Avenue and developing plans for permanent landscaping in the Great Circle and (4) relocation by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority of the temporary elevator for the handicapped from the Great Circle to the Old Post Office site as previously agreed and the provision for an additional public entrance at that location. The Committee recommends also that the proposed new open mezzanine floor projection into the cortile space be eliminated and that period open cage elevator cases be replicated, if possible.

new Response to Previous Committee Action

GSA has removed all site and south and northeast entrance work from the project scope and is attacking a separate competition for the design of these elements in response to items one through four listed above, and to comments by other reviewing bodies. These elements will be reviewed at a later time.

recommended by the Joint Committee, the proposed new open mezzanine floor projection into cortile space has been eliminated. In addition, the cortile corridor wall will not be razed at the eighth and ninth floors and the south cortile corridor wall on the second, third, fifth, sixth, and seventh floors will remain in place rather than being torn out and moved forward to the corridor space. Exact replication of period elevator cabs has proven financially impractical; however, the shaft grill will be retained and half open elevator cabs suggesting open experience of the original will be used. The circular radiators at the entrance floor will now be retained and used to heat the east and west entrance halls.

Fact Description

The project involves the adaptive use renovation of the Old Post Office Building as authorized by Congress to preserve this historic landmark and provide adequate housing for Federal agencies. As the renovation plans the building would house five Federal agencies with approximately 1,000 employees, including the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. These agencies would occupy floors two through five and portions of the mezzanine level and first floor. Most of the first floor and part of mezzanine level would be devoted to commercial tenant use.

Old Post Office Building is a Category II Landmark of the National Capital and is listed on National Register of Historic Places. In addition it is located within the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site. The scope of the project includes removal and replacement of the heating, ventilation air-conditioning system and water, sewer and electric distribution system; repair of roof including restoration of the roof level skylight; installation of required fire safety and life safety systems as well as provisions for the handicapped; modernization of elevators; renovation of existing office areas; architectural preservation of culturally and historically significant features of the building; and foundation work, as necessary.

Old Post Office Building was constructed in the 1890's to house the City Post Office and the U.S. Postal Department. It proved inadequate in space, however, from its earliest occupancy, and the City Post Office was moved to its present location in 1914. The space problems remained until 1914 when the Post Office Building in the Federal Triangle development was constructed across 12th Street.

Old Post Office Building was occupied by all Postmasters General from 1899 to 1934. The architectural merit of the building has been debated from its construction, and several proposals to demolish the building in conjunction with the Federal Triangle development have been made in more than 75 years the building has been standing. In 1973, however, the building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the program for the adaptive use renovation of the building have evolved in the period since it was placed on the National Register.

Occupancy of the renovated building is planned for July 1980.

Project Evaluation

The proposed design concept for the adaptive use renovation of the Old Post Office building separates the building into restoration and adaptive use zones. The dominant architectural features of the interior--the cortile, the corridors surrounding the cortile, the main entry lobbies and elevator-air towers, the highly detailed first and fifth floor former executive offices will be treated in restoration manner. The general office areas and the new commercial spaces at the ground and first floor levels will be contemporary in design. The major alterations to the interior include construction of a new mezzanine floor at the first floor level and, below this, cutting away the old mail room floor to open up the two shoe levels to the cortile space. Major exterior alterations, including creation of new ground level entrances to shops at the northeast corner and in the former loading dock area in the south facade of the building will not be undertaken at this time. The overall concept plays the new against the old in a lively and imaginative manner, opening the impressive cortile space to light and diversified activity while preserving the architectural character of the building.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20575

ANACOSTIA HISTORIC DISTRICT
URBAN HOMESTEADING PROGRAM
2217 PAYNE TERRACE, S.E.
2223 PAYNE TERRACE, S.E.

Report of the Joint Committee on Landmarks

May 13, 1978

The Committee finds that the proposed exterior rehabilitation of 2217 and 2223 Payne Terrace, to be assisted by the Department of Housing and Community Development, will have no effect on policies which qualify the Anacostia Historic District as a Category II Landmark of the National Capital.

* * *

Description

Houses at 2217 and 2223 Payne Terrace, S.E., are identical in style and construction date (ca. 1940's-early 1950's), and the proposed rear facade alterations for both houses are equal. An existing window on the second floor is to be blocked in and an entrance door, porch, and smaller window are to be installed in order to allow rear access to the first floor. Some of the bricks which are removed to create the door opening will be reused in filling the window, and the mortar and brickwork will be matched to existing wall. The existing wooden casement windows that are deteriorated are to be replaced with new wood-framed windows.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20575

ANACOSTIA HISTORIC DISTRICT
URBAN HOMESTEADING PROGRAM
2006 14TH STREET, S.E.Report of the Joint Committee on Landmarks

May 18, 1978

Joint Committee finds that the proposed exterior rehabilitation of 2006 14th Street, S.E., to be listed by the Department of Housing and Community Development, will have no effect on the qualities which qualify the Anacostia Historic District as a Category II Landmark of the National Capital.

* * *

Project Description

proposal calls for the existing stucco finish to be repaired and painted, and for the porch to be added to the front facade with wooden piers, wooden balustrade and a standing seam copper roof. Windows will be two over two lights on the front and side facades, and, if aluminum, will be added. The existing glass transom will be retained over the double paneled wooden entrance door. New asphalt shingle roof will be installed. The existing asbestos siding will remain on the rear facade and an existing door opening will be remodeled as a window. New windows will be installed existing openings in the rear facade, and, if aluminum, will be painted.

THE , COMMISSION , OF , FINE , ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

6 June, 1978

Dear Anne,

I was happy to hear that you are willing to continue serving on the Commission's Board of Architectural Review for Old Georgetown.

Accordingly, the Commission, at its meeting on May 23, 1978, unanimously approved your membership on the Board for another term of three years. We deeply appreciate the time and knowledge you give to the Commission in the difficult task of preserving Georgetown, particularly when so many of the projects are controversial.

The other members of the Commission and I look forward to having you with us.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Ms. Anne Vytlačil
1511 33rd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

6 June, 1978

Dear Wy,

I was delighted to hear you are willing to continue serving on the Commission's Board of Review for Old Georgetown.

The Commission deeply appreciates the experience and knowledge you bring to the Board, particularly at a time when so much is happening in Georgetown. At the same time, we recognize the considerable demands on your own time, and your feelings that there should be a definite limit to service on the Board.

While the Commission has no set date in mind, I would hope you will agree to stay on until at least the first of next year. In the meantime, we would appreciate any thoughts you might have on a successor candidate with a view toward keeping the Board at its present strength.

Sincerely yours,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr.
Faulkner, Fryer & Vanderpool
2000 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

